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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/057,908	01/29/2002	Abraham Araya	P 0290656	2919
909	7590	03/16/2004	EXAMINER	
PILLSBURY WINTHROP, LLP P.O. BOX 10500 MCLEAN, VA 22102			BOYER, CHARLES I	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1751	

DATE MAILED: 03/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/057,908

Applicant(s)

ARAYA ET AL.

Examiner

Charles I Boyer

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-50 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-50 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 03/07/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by
Tsunetsuga et al, US 6,113,655.

Tsunetsuga et al teach a high density, or "compacted" granular fabric cleaner comprising 23% zeolite, 10% bentonite clay, and 0.4% carboxymethylcellulose (col. 32, example 7). Note that this composition is a dry mixture of blown powder, agglomerate, and additional dry additives. Further note that these compositions may be in tablet form (col. 12, line 46) and suitable zeolites of the invention include maximum aluminum P (col. 23, lines 5-8). As this reference meets all material limitations of the claims at hand, the reference is anticipatory.

- Claims 1-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by
Baeck et al, US 5,629,278.

Baeck et al teach a granular fabric cleaner comprising 15% zeolite, 10% smectite clay, and 0.2% carboxymethylcellulose (col. 29, example 9) wherein the granular

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compositions may be prepared by dry mixing the ingredients (col. 24, lines 34-38). Note that these compositions may be in tablet form (col. 23, line 54) and suitable zeolites of the invention include maximum aluminum P (col. 11, lines 1-5). As this reference meets all material limitations of the claims at hand, the reference is anticipatory.

Claims 1-13, 16-28, and 32-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Perman, US 5,071,587.

Perman teaches a water purifying tablet comprising 399 parts bentonite clay, 160 parts zeolite A, and 50 parts carboxymethylcellulose (col. 17, example 4). As this reference meets all material limitations of the claims at hand, the reference is anticipatory.

Claims 1-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Seiter et al, US 5,900,399.

Seiter et al teach detergent tablets comprising 1.3% bentonite clay, 20% zeolite, and 1% carboxymethylcellulose (col. 14, example 5). Suitable zeolites of the invention include zeolite P (col. 5, lines 25-35). As this reference meets all material limitations of the claims at hand, the reference is anticipatory.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The cited references are cumulative to the references cited above.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles I Boyer whose telephone number is 571 272 1311. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yogendra Gupta can be reached on 571 272 1316. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Charles I Boyer

Primary Examiner

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